# What's New in New Hampshire

# Winter/Spring 2010

## Ski Area Upgrades

Skiing is always new and exciting as the snow starts to fall at New Hampshire's numerous ski areas and resorts. The following is a list of ski area improvement projects in the Granite State for this winter season:

Great Glen Trails, Pinkham Notch - Construction is set to begin on the fifth rendition of the Glen House. The Glen House will be a full service hotel located at Great Glen Trails and the base of the Mount Washington Auto Road. It will consist of approximately 80 rooms and offer views of the Presidential Mountains and Great Gulf wildnerness, cradled within the rugged crescent of the Presidential Range. The hotel will include a large veranda, terrace, indoor pool and spa, conference facilities, great room, dining room and more. Cross country ski trails will run directly from the Glen House to the Great Glen Trails network of trails. The project is expected to be completed by spring or summer of 2011.

**Gunstock,** Gilford – Gunstock is completing a two-year \$3.25 million expansion. Guests will find a new fixed-grip quad chairlift along with two new trails and two extended trails in the Gun-shy Beginner Complex. Upgrades are also being made to the snowmaking system through the addition of 4.5 miles of new snowmaking pipe, 13 new tower fan guns, and refitting 25 Ratnik tower guns to be more efficient. These snowmaking improvements along with a capacity of 6,000 gallons of water per minute will result in nearly double the snowmaking capacity compared to three years ago.

Gunstock names new lift to honor Penny Pitou Gunstock Mountain Resort has honored Penny Pitou by naming its newest chairlift the "Penny Pitou Silver Medal Quad." Penny was the first US athlete ever to win an Olympic Downhill Medal. Her two Silver Medals at the 1960 Olympics at Squaw Valley marked a new era of ski racing in the United States. www.gunstock.com.

**Pats Peak**, Henniker – Pats Peak spent \$500,000 this summer on improvements, bringing the total spent in the past five seasons to \$5 million. Among the projects this summer, major improvements to the "Bears' Den" home to the learning program, which doubled the area's size and includes new bathrooms

and a separate kids' kitchen. High-end skiers and riders will find a new lift-serviced terrain park. Snowmaking has been improved with the addition of more fan guns, more HKD snow guns and more snowmaking pipe. The Alpine Training Center for racers has doubled in size. New "secret gladed areas" have been added that require "secret lines" to discover, some of which involve hiking.

**Cannon Mountain**, Franconia Notch – Cannon is in the midst of phase two of its expansion. Among projects currently underway are improvements to the Notchview and Peabody Base Lodge that will result in doubling the size of the pub, base lodge and family room areas. Cannon is also conducting small-scale brushing and trimming on the recently re-opened Mittersill Ski Area. Other projects include the purchase of a Prinoth BR350 grooming machine, new snowmaking pump, upgrades to the mechanical and electrical systems for the facilities, and expansions to the rental shop and retail areas.

**Attitash**, Bartlett – A focus on snowmaking improvements leads the way at Attitash for this winter. New snowmaking pipe, snowguns, flow meters and more are being installed in order to ensure optimal snow quality regardless of what Mother Nature provides. Enhancements are also being made to the base areas and lodges. The rental shop will be getting an upgraded inventory as well.

**Wildcat Mountain**, Pinkham Notch – Among the improvements made this summer at Wildcat is additional snowmaking pipe to enhance the snowmaking system. The Jib Lot was moved to the Lower Catapult Trail to improve the terrain park experience.

**Crotched Mountain**, Bennington – Much of the work conducted this summer at Crotched Mountain was in direct response to guest requests. The lodge entrance will have a new welcoming feel along with a new high-tech floor covering. The upstairs of the lodge will now have a fireplace to add to the atmosphere. Improvements are also being made to the snowmaking system.

Granite Gorge, Keene – The rental shop at Granite Gorge has been expanded and relocated for more convenient service. The snowtubing area has added new Tube Pro tubes in both single and double rider formats.

**Mount Sunapee,** Newbury – Mount Sunapee purchased ten more energy efficient snow guns in order to make more snow utilizing less energy. A new gladed trail was cut on Mount Sunapee's South Peak Learning Area. The main terrain park will now incorporate part of a third trail with four progression lines and has been renamed "603".

King Pine and Purity Spring Resort, East Madison – Over the summer King Pine added to their already powerful snowmaking system with a dozen new, energy-efficient tower snow guns. The rental shop added 70 pairs of skis to the largest rental fleet in the White Mountains. The guest experience was enhanced with upgrades to parking and signage. The snowtubing area was also improved.

For more information on ski areas, lodging packages, and updated winter events at Ski NH mountain resorts, call Ski NH at (800) 88-SKI-NH (800-887-5464) or visit the Ski NH website at <a href="www.SkiNH.com">www.SkiNH.com</a>.

#### What else is New at the Ski Resorts?

**Bretton Woods**, Bretton Woods – Bretton Woods is now home to one of the longest, year-round Canopy Tours in the United States. The tour descends over 1,000 vertical feet and consists of a series of tree-top zip lines, suspension bridges, and hiking trails. The tour concludes with the Williwaw Racing Zip, a dual, side-by-side zip line running right into the base area. The Williwaw Racing Zip can also be enjoyed without participating in the entire Canopy Tour.

**Cranmore Mountain,** North Conway – Not only is Cranmore renowned for its skiing, but also for its variety of activities for all ages. Two recent additions to the Cranmore evening repertoire are the Meister Hut Wine Dinners and Cranmore Comedy Nights.

#### Meister Hut Wine Dinners

Cranmore Mountain's Meister Hut Wine Dinners were selected by the editors of New Hampshire Magazine as "Best of NH 2008" for Mountaintop Dinners. The dinners, which will be offered on five evenings, were launched in 2008 to great acclaim. They feature a four-course menu with wine pairings in the rustic setting of the mountaintop Meister Hut. Guests choose between a selection of five entrees, each accompanied by wine carefully matched to each course. Diners reach the summit via the high-speed express quad. The dinner is open to skiers and non-skiers alike with a welcome reception starting at 6pm each evening.

## **Cranmore Comedy Nights**

Cranmore brings comedic talent in from Boston and Portland to its stage in North Conway for a true comedy club experience in the mountains. Two shows are planned this year - one on the Friday of

Martin Luther King weekend, January 15; and the other on Fri. Feb. 26. Both feature emcee Mike Viselli, who brings along two or three talented comics for a night of raucous laughter.

For more information about wine dinners, comedy shows and other events and activities at Cranmore Mountain, please call 603-356-5544 or visit <a href="https://www.cranmore.com">www.cranmore.com</a>.

#### Winter Excitement

Moe Snow, New Hampshire's Official Spokes-Snow Ball —Using Facebook and Twitter, Moe Snow keeps visitors updated on available discounted packages and current snow conditions. Moe Snow and his virtual family were introduced at the Boston Ski & Snowboard Expo in Boston on November 19, as part of the state's launch of its winter promotion with Ski NH. As the official guide to "all things winter in New Hampshire," Moe Snow and his virtual family — Constance, Joey, and Powder -- will keep visitors to New Hampshire updated on all the on- and off-slope activities and great deals throughout the winter season. http://www.moesnownh.com/

Inaugural "Sno Bowl" presented by Ski-doo, New Hampshire Motor Speedway, Loudon, NH – One of the most exciting forms of motorized entertainment will be featured as New Hampshire Motor Speedway kicks off its 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary season with the ultimate "Nor'easter," the inaugural Sno Bowl on Saturday, February 20 and Sunday, Feb. 21 from 9am to 4pm daily. The snow-covered grounds of the speedway will be transformed into a winter playground for the riders of Rock Maple Racing, who will challenge the tough Sno Bowl oval for two straight days. The snocross stars will be side-by-side and nose-to-tail throughout each event in various classes of competition. www.nhms.com

Alpine Adventures, Lincoln, NH – Alpine Adventures offers a giant swing, rain shelters and a secured climbing tree on the zipline tours. A "big kid" jungle gym, expanded ropes course and tree houses promise to be fun for the whole family. http://www.alpinezipline.com/about-us/

### **Hotels and Lodging**

**Mountain View Grand Resort**, Whitefield – Visit the completely renovated and redesigned signature Tower Spa. The resort installed new thermo-pane glass windows to offer guests unmatched 360-degree crystal-clear views of this 1700-acre property and the numerous surrounding White Mountains peaks.

The resort also recently installed a 121-foot wind turbine to generate up to half of its electricity. www.mountainviewgrand.com/

Portwalk Project, Portsmouth, NH – Construction on a new 120-room extended-stay hotel is underway in Portsmouth, as the first phase of the Portwalk Project. Back in June, demolition began of the Parade Office Mall, an eyesore remnant from the urban renewal phase of the 1970s. When the project is completed, Portwalk will ultimately feature four LEED-Certified, mixed use buildings. In addition to the hotel, Portwalk's master plan includes 36 downtown condominiums, 15 to 20 retail shops and restaurants, and more than 175,000 square feet of office space situated above an underground parking lot. www.cathartesprivate.com/portfolio/office.htm

### **Culinary**

Penuche's Grill, Manchester, NH – The family that owned the famous Merrimack Restaurant in Manchester, where all the politicians would stop when in New Hampshire, now own the cozy, colorful Penuche's Grill. Located on Hanover Street, just a few doors down from the Palace Theatre, Penuche's is the perfect place to stop for a hot, healthy, homemade lunch or dinner before a show. Guests love their award-winning clam chowder, fresh fish, traditional meatloaf and much more. They also love the \$4.99 homemade lunches every day of the week! Penuche's also hosts a variety of entertainment most evenings. http://www.penuchesmanchester.com/Home Page.html

**2 Food and Drink,** Manchester, NH – The downtown Manchester dining destination known for "seriously fun food" is expanding its space this winter, doubling the size of the restaurant. The overall footprint of the restaurant will grow to 4,000 square feet, accommodating 125 total seats, including a new bar that will seat 20, and a kitchen expansion. A renovated kitchen will allow chefs even more creative freedom to experiment and offer new additions to the already progressive menu. Remodeling is currently underway, and some surprises have already surfaced. While renovating the new bar area, workers discovered a beautiful porcelain tile floor that was hidden for decades. The owner intends on refurbishing the original tiles, adding other unique characteristic to the new design. Re-opening is scheduled in time for Valentine's Day. http://www.zfoodanddrink.com/home.phtml

Winter Wine Festival at Wentworth by the Sea, New Castle – The 6th Annual Winter Wine Festival at the Wentworth by the Sea Hotel begins on January 15th and continues to February 27th, 2010.

Affording guests the opportunity to meet renowned national and international luminaries in the culinary and wine worlds this smartly planned seven-week event caters to connoisseurs and novices alike. Grand

vintner's dinners, flight nights, rare vintage tastings, celebrity chefs and winemakers, classes, Bubbles and Jazz Sunday brunches, and educational seminars with notable oenophiles will offer something for everyone. Now in its 6th year, the festival has grown by leaps and bounds, offering wine enthusiasts and gourmands the ultimate experience in entertainment and education alongside the beauty of a luxurious historic grand hotel. <a href="http://northeastwinefestivals.com/Winter-Wine-Festival.html">http://northeastwinefestivals.com/Winter-Wine-Festival.html</a>

7th Annual Easter Seals NH Winter Wine Spectacular, Manchester — For wine enthusiasts and foodies alike, the 7th Annual Winter Wine Spectacular will be held January 28 at the Radisson Hotel in Manchester from 6 to 9 p.m. This premier wine event, presented by The NH Liquor and Wine Outlets and sponsored by Riverstone Resource LLC will support Easter Seals' Early Intervention Services. The event features a vast selection of more than 1,400 varietals, dozens of winemakers, wine seminars, and fabulous food from the area's most popular restaurants.

http://nh.easterseals.com/site/PageServer?pagename=NHDR\_staffonly

Cuisine of Brittney, Alsace, Burgundy, and Provence Cooking Class, The Balsams Grand Resort Hotel, Dixville Notch – This hands-on, 10-hour cooking class and seminar features instruction, professional guidance, and experience in the art of French cooking. Each participant will assist in the preparation of a four-course luncheon. Wine stewards will assist in the selection of wines to match each course. Each participant may bring one guest for each luncheon, and all participants, guests, and faculty chefs will enjoy the fruits of the day's labor at a formal table set and served by members of the dining room staff. February 3, 2010 to February 5, 2010. http://www.thebalsams.com/dining; 603-255-3400.

### **Arts and Culture**

The Music Hall, Portsmouth – The Music Hall 2010 features live shows, broadcasts and film almost every night of the year. Among this season's lineup of interesting entertainers: Art Garfunkel, The Wailers, Isabel Allende, Night of Blues and Afro Funk, A Prairie Home Companion HD broadcast. The landmark Victorian theatre in downtown Portsmouth is also hosting legendary musician Joshua Bell in concert with pianist Jeremy Denk. Also, nationally renowned dance company Pilobolus, Monterey Jazz Festival on Tour, comedienne Paula Poundstone, bossa nova jazz pianist Eliane Elias, Umalali, and Circus Incognitus. http://themusichall.org/calendar/index.asp

Currier Museum of Art, Manchester – The museum has made several changes over the past few months, including new objects in the contemporary, modern and glass galleries. Visitors are encouraged to enjoy the museum's permanent collection while improvements are being made to the special exhibition galleries. Coming in March, Homer to Hopper: American Watercolor Masterworks from the Currier Museum of Art, an exhibition that will feature extraordinary works by such nationally known masters as Winslow Homer, Maurice Prendergast, Childe Hassam, Rockwell Kent, Edward Hopper, Charles Burchfield, John Marin, Charles Sheeler, Stuart Davis, and Andrew Wyeth. http://www.currier.org/upcomingexhibitions.aspx

Black Heritage Trail, Portsmouth – This is where the idea for a local black history trail began. The Portsmouth Black Heritage Trail evolved from a multicultural action group sponsored by the Greater Piscataqua Community Foundation that was meeting at New Hope Baptist Church. Although, the New Hope plaque is the last of 24 markers to be completed in this series, the Trail expects to add more sites as research and funding become available. The first two site markers were erected in 2000. www.seacoastnh.com/Today/History News/Black History Trail Adds New Hope Baptist/

Willy Wonka Junior, Rochester – Join the charismatic, mischievous Willy Wonka in a world of pure imagination as he seeks to find an heir to manage his magical candy factory in this stage adaptation of Roald Dahl's Charlie and the Chocolate Factory. The play features the classic film songs The Candy Man, Pure Imagination and Oompa Loompa. Stars of the show are award-winning Director Sharon Asher Arsenault's students of the Tri-City Christian Academy Youth Theatre. Location: Rochester Opera House, 31 Wakefield Street. February 26, 2010 to February 27, 2010, 2PM. Visit www.rochesteroperahouse.com/

Northern Harmony World Music Choir Performs, Hancock – Hailed for their "sheer agility, vitality and power," Northern Harmony's brilliant young singers are chosen from among the strongest recent graduates of Village Harmony teen ensembles. They stretch the normal boundaries of choral music with their command of varied world ethnic singing styles: sacred and secular harmonies from Corsica and Georgia; village music from the Balkans; South African folk and church songs and dances; American shape-note singing and a cappella gospel; and contemporary compositions. Location: Hancock Meeting House. January 29, 2010 Time: 7:30 Admission: General, \$12; students and seniors, \$8. Information: 603-899-3249 or 802-426-3210 or visit www.villageharmony.org.

Rapture of Orchids Show and Sale, Nashua – Orchid exhibits, sales, free workshops, guided tours.

Location: Radisson Hotel, 11 Tara Blvd. February 12, 2010 to February 14, 2010. Time: Friday, 1-5PM; Saturday, 9AM-5PM; Sunday, 9AM-4PM. Information: <a href="www.nhorchids.org">www.nhorchids.org</a>

Lula Washington Dance Theatre, Manchester –This contemporary dance troupe took its first steps in South Los Angeles as a creative outlet for minority dancers. Today it lands at the top of critics' lists as one of the most admired African-American dance troupes in the country. Location: Saint Anselm College, 100 Saint Anselm Drive. February 19, 2010. Time: 8 P.M. Cost: Adult Reserved seating, \$29.50; seniors, \$25.50; youths age 18 and younger, \$12.50. Information: 603-641-7700 or visit www.anselm.edu/dana

#### Social Media

NH Division of Travel & Tourism Development (NHDTTD) Facebook Fan Benefit – Launched in November 2009, NHDTTD's VisitNH Fan Benefit on Facebook allows fans to receive exclusive discounts at NH properties and attractions. Since the launch, the Division has nearly doubled its fans on Facebook to almost 3,000 people. January's benefit is: Ski, Stay and Spa discounts at the Mountain Edge Spa & Resort and Best Western Sunapee Lake Lodge in Newbury, NH. Travelers will receive a discounted rate of \$199 per night for a Den Suite + \$50 spa credit at the Mountain Edge Spa and Resort. Fans can also choose to stay at the Best Western Sunapee Lake Lodge for \$79 per night or stay two nights and get a \$50 spa credit or two lift tickets to Mount Sunapee Resort. Visitors can log onto to:

www.facebook.com/VisitNH to become a fan and start enjoying all the benefits that go with it!

### Yankee Dollar Stretcher Deals

Lodging on the Androscoggin, Errol – Recently partnered with Northern Forest Canoe Trail and Outdoor Escapes LLC to offer a wonderful Nordic Ski Package. Embrace winter with a weekend getaway and explore some of northern New Hampshire's finest cross country ski trails. Package includes 2 nights at the well kept and comfortable Lodging on the Androscoggin, 1 day of guided skiing or snowshoeing, equipment rental, trail pass and a trail lunch. Prices range from \$485 to \$535. For more information, visit: http://northernforestcanoetrail.org/PlanaTrip-3/Winter-Vacation-Packages-62

Great Northern Moose Lodge, Dummer – Dog Sledding Tours offer guests the chance to be whisked through some of northern New Hampshire's most beautiful woods by a seasoned dog sled team. Professional guides and mushers teach dogsledding techniques and point out wildlife along the way. Pricing varies based on selected tour and length of stay. <a href="http://northernforestcanoetrail.org/PlanaTrip-3/Winter-Vacation-Packages-62">http://northernforestcanoetrail.org/PlanaTrip-3/Winter-Vacation-Packages-62</a>

The Balsams, Dixville Notch – The "Full American" package is steeped in tradition. All activities & meals are included at one low price, making the full enjoyment of the resort affordable. Rates start at \$214 per person. Package includes: Comfortable Accommodations, Full Buffet Breakfast, Famous Luncheon Buffet, Five-Course Dinner in The Balsams Award-Winning Dining Room, Alpine skiing at the resort's private ski area, cross country, snowshoeing and hiking on more than 60 miles of trails and more all for one rate. Pricing and activities are for the Classic Full American Plan. Some restrictions may apply. (800) 255-0600. www.thebalsams.com.

GraniteStateVacations.com, Sunapee – The "New Hampshire Winter Adventure" package includes 3 nights lodging for the regular price of 2 nights, hearty country breakfast each morning and afternoon après ski treats (hot cocoa, cider, tea and cookies). Discounted lift tickets may be purchased separately at each inn for Ragged Mountain Resort, Pats Peak and Mt. Sunapee. Priced from \$200 for the Blue Acorn Inn, from \$210 for Henniker House B&B, from \$258 for the Rosewood Country Inn, and from \$300 for the Highland Lake Inn, based on double occupancy and exclusive of tax. Valid 12/09-4/10. Some black-out dates apply. <a href="http://granitestatevacations.com/">http://granitestatevacations.com/</a>

**Dudley House B&B,** Alton – The Dudley House is a well preserved 220-year-old colonial home built around the time of George Washington's presidency by Daniel Dudley after he came home from fighting in the revolutionary war. The home was updated about 30 yrs ago with everything brought up to present standards, but the warmth and comfort of your surroundings has not changed. Offering a 25% discount to non-residents. 603-776-4111; www.bbonline.com/nh/dudley/

**The Radisson Nashua Castle,** Nashua – With love in the air in February, the Radisson is offering a special Valentine's package; stay one night between Thursday, Feb 11<sup>th</sup> and Sunday, Feb 14<sup>th</sup> for \$99.99 per night. The package includes a cozy romantic room, chocolate covered strawberries delivered to your door and breakfast for two. Based on double occupancy.

http://www.radisson.com/reservation/itineraryEntrance.do?pacLink=Y&promoCode=VAL&hotelCode=N HNASHUA The Inn at Ellis River, Jackson – The Inn is offering a Get out of the Doghouse Special for those who can't get away on Valentine's Day. On this romantic getaway, couples will be greeted with a rose, chocolates and dog bone-shaped cookies to welcome them. They will enjoy two half-hour massages at Moon dance Massage, dine by candlelight at the Wentworth one evening, and go tubing snowshoeing or cross-country skiing at Great Glen Trails. The package includes all of the above plus 2 nights' lodging, gourmet breakfasts each morning, and afternoon refreshments. Packages range from \$439 (for traditional rooms) to \$679 (for Jacuzzi and fireplace rooms). The Inn is also offering a Walk on the Wild Side special with a snowshoe instructional nature tour. Jackson Ski Touring Foundation's guide leads the Saturday morning tour and gives snowshoe technique tips along the way. For details on these and all other packages, visit: <a href="http://www.innatellisriver.com/">http://www.innatellisriver.com/</a>

**Glen Oaks Inn,** Intervale – Romance is in the air at Glen Oaks. Their romance package includes gourmet dinner for two, hearty country breakfast each morning, horse-drawn Austrian sleigh ride, two passes to Great Glen Trails for a day of cross-country skiing, snowshoeing or tubing and more. Package rates through 3/31/10: \$353-\$454 per couple. http://www.glenoaksinn.com/index.php

Jackson Ski Touring Foundation, Jackson – Offering its 2 Ski Away ticket pricing. Get two tickets for \$19 on non-holiday Wednesdays. The excluded dates are: Dec. 30, Feb. 10, 17 and 24. JSTF is also offering its Super Saver Package for first time skiers. Come to the Jackson X-C Base Lodge and for \$42, expert staff will assist you with ski equipment fitting and give you 1 1/4 hours of X-C ski instruction using their specially designed Learning Center and get guests set up with recommendations for what trails to experience, where to find a good lunch, interesting viewpoints and more. Visitors can take a traditional lesson or our Special Introductory Tour. Lessons available daily throughout the ski season. Certified Professional Ski Instructors (PSIA) on staff. <a href="https://www.jacksonxc.org">www.jacksonxc.org</a>.

**Colonial Spencer Inn, Campton** – Here visitors can experience the charm of a cozy 18<sup>th</sup> century B & B, richly steeped in America's history. They are located in New Hampshire's spectacular White Mountains—all within view of a tranquil country pond and the Pemigewasset River. Right now they are offering some great Winter Discounts and Stay Free Specials.

http://www.colonelspencerbb.com/html/specials.html

**Franconia Inn,** Franconia – Offering its **Cross Country Ski Escape** package. 2 nights lodging includes gourmet dinners, full breakfasts, cross-country ski pass for our 65k of groomed trails, cross-country ski

rental, ice skate and/or snowshoe rental. Priced from \$179 pp/do and available Sunday—Thursday, non-holiday. Please use booking code MW2X. 800-473-5299. <a href="https://www.franconiainn.com">www.franconiainn.com</a>.

#### **Awards and Honors**

**Sheraton Portsmouth Harborside Hotel** – Selected by the readers of New Hampshire Magazine's BRIDE as "Best of Bride 2009" for **Best New Hampshire Hotel for Guests.** The poll was conducted from the beginning of April to the end of June, and had 45 categories.

http://www.sheratonportsmouth.com/BestofBride2009.htm

Grafton County Named One of Best Places for Work – CNN and Money Magazine rated Grafton County the sixth best place in the country for jobs. Known for its sprawling countryside and snow-capped mountains, the county is also getting credit for its technology jobs, culture and large employers. Some of the county' major employers include Dartmouth-Hitchcock Medical Center and Dartmouth College. <a href="http://money.cnn.com/galleries/2009/moneymag/0912/gallery.Best\_places\_employment.moneymag/6.html">http://money.cnn.com/galleries/2009/moneymag/0912/gallery.Best\_places\_employment.moneymag/6.html</a>

Sugar Hill Inn – Distinguished Restaurants of North America (DiRōNA) announced Sugar Hill as an inductee into the Class of 2010. The Sugar Hill Inn, a member of Select Registry, attracts guests from around the world seeking relaxation and a romantic escape in a beautiful environment. Major renovations to the historic inn over the last three years have restored the inn's proud tradition of hospitality. The Sugar Hill Inn was Yankee Magazine Editors Choice for 2008 and has been featured in 1001 Places to See Before You Die, Former's, Every Day with Rachael Ray Magazine, and New Hampshire Magazine. <a href="https://www.sugarhill.com">www.sugarhill.com</a>

Wentworth by the Sea in New Castle and The Inn at Thorne Hill in Jackson — Only two NH hotels to make the Conde Nast Traveler 2010 "Gold List of the World's Best Places to Stay." The judges stated that The Inn at Thorne Hill in the foothills of the Presidential Mountains has rooms named for former U.S. presidents "that are simply lovely," with red patterned wallpaper and green carpeting. "The food is consistently excellent" at the 78-seat dining room. After a day of hiking, guests unwind with a heated-stone massage. "I can't imagine anyone being disappointed by a stay here." Of Wentworth by the Sea, they said: This coastal property with a red mansard roof and three towers looks onto granite outcroppings. "Without making the hotel a museum," rooms are outfitted in Victorian style with damasks, shiny woodwork, and brass accents. At the dining room, with views of Portsmouth Little

Harbor, expect New England dishes that incorporate seasonal produce.

www.concierge.com/tools/travelawards/goldlist/2010/regions/northamerica/usa/

#### Miscellaneous

Dinner with Jack Frost - Progressive Snowshoe Dinner, New London – Singles and families will snowshoe or sled around the New London Town Common via the light of Tiki torches to six to eight designated bonfires. Each bonfire will be a sponsoring restaurant from town which will provide one of its trademark entrees, beverages and/or desserts. At each station enjoy music, campfires and a beautiful moonlit night. Location: New London Town Common. January 29, 2010. Time: 6-8 p.m. Fee: Adults, \$10; children under age 5, free. Information: 603-526-4821 or visit <a href="https://www.campfiredining.com/index.php?nav=21&group=8">www.campfiredining.com/index.php?nav=21&group=8</a>

New Hampshire Sanctioned Snow Sculpting Event, Jackson – Sculptors will begin sculpting on Friday, January 29, and continue through Sunday until noon. On Friday night, visitors will have a great opportunity to meet all the carving teams at the Welcome Reception at the Red Fox Bar & Grille starting at 5:30 p.m. Visitors and artists can share ideas and snow stories as well as warm up by the fire, enjoy some great food and cheer. Later, there will be torch lighting, bonfire and S'mores at the sculpting area at Jackson Village Park. Carvers work until Sunday at noon when everyone is invited to the Eagle Mountain House & Golf Club for a Brunch and an Awards ceremony. January 29, 2010. Location: Route 16A / Village Road. Information: <a href="https://www.jacksonnh.com">www.jacksonnh.com</a>